

Abstract

5 The object of the present invention is to provide a dispatch system and a method therefor which significantly increase throughput. It would additionally be desirable to provide a dispatch system which is capable of handling both trays and tubs of various sizes as well as containers which are uncovered, sleeved, or covered with cardboard.

10 A solution for this object is given by a postal dispatch system (20,20') which dispatches randomly arranged containers (94) of sorted mail to particular dispatch carts (52) comprising:

15 a sortation conveyor (36, 36') having a main line defined by a conveying surface, a plurality of spurs (44, 44') extending from said mail line and a diverter mechanism at each of said spurs (44, 44') which selectively diverts containers (94) from said conveying surface onto the associated one of said spurs (44, 44'); and at least one transport mechanism (50,50') which transports containers (94) from each of said spurs (44,44') to a cart (52) juxtaposed with that spur (44,44').

20 Said object is even solved by a method of dispatching randomly ordered containers (94) of sorted mail to carts (52), comprising:  
sorting containers (94) to particular locations, each associated with a cart (52); and  
25 transporting containers (94) between each of said particular locations and the associated cart (52).

(hereto Fig. 4)